Greetings!

I am often asked what makes Leadership Public Schools special, and for me, it comes down to this phrase:

**Personalized Pathways to College.**

As in most urban high schools, Leadership Public Schools students enter our classrooms with many academic holes as well as areas of strength. This challenge requires an innovative solution to help accelerate students who have academic gaps while supporting advanced learners.

What is the best way to address this challenge?

We believe the solution lies in harnessing the power of data. LPS has developed an innovative solution that uses diagnostic data and computer assisted supports to provide personalized learning pathways for each student. We are putting the program into practice at the four LPS campuses, but it is already having an impact on charter and district schools around the nation. Please read on to learn more about how we are using data to empower our students and prepare them for college success.

Dr. Louise Bay Waters
Superintendent and CEO

**Student Transformations**

The greatest untapped power in urban high schools is the students themselves. Once students believe that they can control their own academic destiny and see a path to success, they make extraordinary leaps. LPS has developed several data-collection tools for teachers and students that enable us to provide personalized instruction - and we are already seeing a positive impact on student performance.

**Entering College Ready to Succeed**

"I went to a larger school at the beginning of my freshman year and the classes were really crowded and the campus was huge. I like LPS better. It is more personal, every teacher knows how you write and knows your name. The counselors pull you aside on a regular basis if your grades are dipping. The learning can be based on the students and what we need to learn, not a set curriculum."

-- Riccardo Fregoso
LPS-San Jose senior Riccardo Fregoso has already passed both the California State University English and Math early placement tests - in effect saving almost a year of remediation and close to $18,000 of college expenses.

Tailored Instruction, Rapid Acceleration

“When I first came to LPS my reading skills were not good. Now I like reading. The computers are fun, they test our spelling, our reading strategies and the words we are learning. I can’t wait to get to 4th period College Reading. It’s definitely my favorite class.”
-- Juana Lopez

The LPS College Reading program is offered for students struggling with basic reading skills. Juana Lopez, an LPS-Richmond sophomore, has gained a full year of reading skill in three months and is on track to jump 2-3 grade levels by the end of this year.

Engaging Students in an Academic Turnaround

“I was awakened this year. The teachers and administrators helped me put together a plan and I know good things are coming in my future.”
-- Erik Cortez

Cecil Williams, a math teacher at LPS-College Park, closely monitors the data of students in his classes and engages them in understanding what it takes to succeed. Students are provided with a personalized, at-a-glance view of their current academic progress and their requirements to graduate from high school prepared for college. This simple tool has empowered students to take their academic performance into their own hands. Erik Cortez moved up two grades in math in two months - just one example of the positive impact that is being seen across the campus.

Data-Driven & Personalized Instruction

Personalized instruction based on the ongoing use of data is accelerating student learning in reading and math and helping teachers support advanced students in SAT preparation and passing early college placement tests. LPS students engage in a wide range of data reflection activities and setting goals in everything from passing the high school graduation exam to progress towards college acceptance.

• Daily "exit tickets" in every class allow teachers to gather immediate student data.
Weekly collection of data on key aspects of their teaching allows teachers to either change their instructional strategy for the whole class or develop mini-lessons to support specific students. Assessments aligned to the California State University freshman placement exam in English are given multiple times a year so that students can chart their progress.

- Academic Numeracy students chart their data in both numeracy and Algebra skills while the teacher designs individualized paths for them to Algebra success.

Your Generosity Transforms Lives - Thank You

Your contributions are invaluable in providing the targeted academic interventions and personalized curriculum that are transforming our students’ lives.

You can DOUBLE the impact of your gift: our Board Challenge will match every dollar you give to Leadership Public Schools before June 30, 2010.

LPS thanks all those individuals, foundations, and corporations who have provided financial support. We would especially like to recognize Citi Foundation for its generous support of the LPS College Prep Program.